

OFFICIAL

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

JUN 17 2004

Docket No.: 249532US0DIV

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

OBLON
SPIVAK
McCLELLAND
MAIER
&
NEUSTADT
P.C.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

RE: Application Serial No.: 10/786,548

Applicants: Hiroto HIGUCHI, et al.

Filing Date: February 26, 2004

For: TONER, METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING THE
TONER, AND IMAGE FORMING METHOD AND
APPARATUS USING THE TONER

Group Art Unit: 2852

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

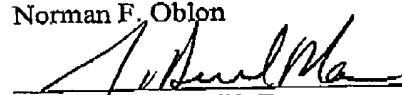
Information Disclosure Statement, Chinese Office Action, PTO Form 1449 (9 pp.)

Our check in the amount of -0- is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Norman F. Oblon



J. Derek Mason, Ph.D.

Registration No. 35,270

Customer Number

22850

(703) 413-3000 (phone)
(703) 413-2220 (fax)1940 DUKE STREET ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314 U.S.A.
TELEPHONE: 703-413-3000 FAXSIMILE: 703-413-2220 WWW.OBLON.COM

P 4
OFFICIAL

Docket No. 249532US0DIV

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Hiroto HIGUCHI, et al.

SERIAL NO: 10/786,548

GAU: 2852

JUN 17 2004

FILED: February 26, 2004

EXAMINER:

FOR: TONER, METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING THE TONER, AND IMAGE FORMING METHOD AND APPARATUS USING THE TONER

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Applicant(s) wish to disclose the following information.

REFERENCES

- The applicant(s) wish to make of record the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed references are NOT attached because they were previously filed in U.S. Application Serial No. 09/965,826, where required, as are either statements of relevancy or any readily available English translations of pertinent portions of any non-English language references.
- A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

RELATED CASES

- Attached is a list of applicant's pending application(s) or issued patent(s) which may be related to the present application. A copy of the patent(s), together with a copy of the claims and drawings of the pending application(s) is attached along with PTO 1449.
- A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

CERTIFICATION

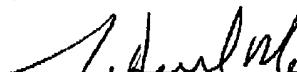
- Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
- No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

- Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check or credit card payment is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
Norman F. Oblon



J. Derek Mason, Ph.D.

Registration No. 35,270

Customer Number

22850

Tel. (703) 413-3000
Fax. (703) 413-2220
(OSMMN 05/03)

JUN. 17. 2004 4:38PM 4th FLR.

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER NO. 076 P. 10

OFFICIAL

JUN 17 2004

SHEET 1 OF 9

Form PTO 1449 (Modified)	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY DOCKET NO. 249532US0DIV	SERIAL NO. 10/786,548
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT		APPLICANT Hiroto HIGUCHI, et al.	
		FILING DATE February 26, 2004	GROUP 2852

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
AA	5,882,832	03/16/99	TOSAKA, ET AL			
AB	5,429,901	07/04/95	MUTO, ET AL.			
AC	5,368,972	11/29/94	YAMASHITA, ET AL.			
AD	5,168,028	12/01/92	NANYA, ET AL.			
AE	4,956,258	09/11/90	WATANABE, ET AL.			
AF	4,908,290	03/13/90	WATANABE, ET AL.			
AG	6,004,715	12/21/99	SUZUKI, ET AL.			
AH	6,074,794	06/13/00	FUSHIMI, ET AL.			
AI	6,010,814	01/04/00	KOTSUGAI, ET AL.			
AJ	6,180,298	01/30/01	KURODA, ET AL.			
AK	6,074,795	06/13/00	WATANABE, ET AL.			
AL	6,103,441	08/15/00	TOMITA, ET AL.			
AM	6,303,258	10/16/01	KATOH, ET AL.			
AN						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION
				YES NO
AO				
AP				
AQ				
AR				
AS				
AT				
AU				
AV				

OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

AW	
AX	
AY	
AZ	<input type="checkbox"/> Additional References sheet(s) attached

Examiner

Date Considered

*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

SHEET 2 OF 9

Form PTO 1449 (Modified)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 249532US0DIV	SERIAL NO. 10/786,548	
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT		APPLICANT Hiroto HIGUCHI, et al.				
		FILING DATE February 26, 2004		GROUP 2852		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS
AA		5,935,751	08/10/99	MUTSUOKA, ET AL.		
AB		4,702,986	10/27/87	IMAI, ET AL.		
AC						
AD						
AE						
AF						
AG						
AH						
AI						
AJ						
AK						
AL						
AM						
AN						
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION YES NO	
AO		0 872 774	10/21/98	EUROPE		
AP		0 926 563	06/30/99	EUROPE		
AQ		1 168 089	01/02/02	EUROPE		
AR						
AS						
AT						
AU						
AV						
OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)						
AW	Patent Abstracts of Japan, JP 2000-075536, March 14, 2000.					
AX	Chinese Office Action w/ corresponding U.S. Application 5,935,751.					
AY						
AZ					<input type="checkbox"/> Additional References sheet(s) attached	
Examiner					Date Considered	
*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.						

SHEET 3 OF 9

Form PTO 1449 (Modified)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 249532US0DIV	SERIAL NO. 10/786,548		
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT		APPLICANT		Hiroto HIGUCHI, et al.			
		FILING DATE		GROUP 2852			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5,554,478	09/10/96	KURAMOTO, ET AL.			
	AB	5,403,690	04/04/95	KURAMOTO, ET AL.			
	AC	5,879,849	03/09/99	SAWADA, ET AL.			
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION		
	AO				YES	NO	
	AP						
	AQ						
	AR						
	AS						
	AT						
	AU						
	AV						
OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
	AW						
	AX						
	AY						
	AZ	<input type="checkbox"/> Additional References sheet(s) attached					
Examiner						Date Considered	
*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

Form PTO 1449 (Modified)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 249532US0DIV	SERIAL NO. 10/786,548	
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT		APPLICANT Hiroto HIGUCHI, et al.				
		FILING DATE February 26, 2004		GROUP 2852		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS
	AA	5,288,577	02/22/94	YAMAGUCHI, ET AL.		
	AB	6,303,257	10/16/01	HASEGAWA, ET AL.		
	AC					
	AD					
	AE					
	AF					
	AG					
	AH					
	AI					
	AJ					
	AK					
	AL					
	AM					
	AN					
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION YES NO	
	AO					
	AP					
	AQ					
	AR					
	AS					
	AT					
	AU					
	AV					
OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)						
	AW					
	AX					
	AY					
	AZ					<input type="checkbox"/> Additional References sheet(s) attached
Examiner						Date Considered
<small>*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</small>						

SHEET 5 OF 9

Form PTO 1449 (Modified)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 249532USODIV	SERIAL NO. 10/786,548		
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT		APPLICANT		Hiroto HIGUCHI, et al.			
		FILING DATE		GROUP			
		February 26, 2004		2852			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
AA		5,721,083	02/24/98	MASUDA, ET AL.			
AB		5,554,478	09/10/96	KURAMOTO, ET AL.			
AC		5,403,690	04/04/95	KURAMOTO, ET AL.			
AD		5,344,732	09/06/94	CHIBA, ET AL.			
AE		4,980,258	12/25/90	AOKI, ET AL.			
AF		4,933,250	06/12/90	NAKAYAMA, ET AL.			
AG		4,950,573	08/21/90	YAMAGUCHI, ET AL.			
AH		4,762,763	08/09/88	NOMURA, ET AL.			
AI							
AJ							
AK							
AL							
AM							
AN							
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION		
					YES	NO	
AO							
AP							
AQ							
AR							
AS							
AT							
AU							
AV							
OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
	AW						
	AX						
	AY						
	AZ	<input type="checkbox"/> Additional References sheet(s) attached <input type="checkbox"/> Date Considered					
Examiner _____							
*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

SHEET 6 OF 9

Form PTO 1449 (Modified)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 249532US0DIV	SERIAL NO. 10/786,548	
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT		APPLICANT Hiroto HIGUCHI, et al.				
		FILING DATE February 26, 2004		GROUP 2852		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS
	AA	6,363,229	03/26/02	SHIRAISHI, ET AL.		
	AB	6,258,502	07/10/01	NAKAMURA, ET AL.		
	AC	6,406,826	06/18/02	SUZUKI, ET AL.		
	AD					
	AE					
	AF					
	AG					
	AH					
	AI					
	AJ					
	AK					
	AL					
	AM					
	AN					
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION YES NO	
	AO					
	AP					
	AQ					
	AR					
	AS					
	AT					
	AU					
	AV					
OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)						
	AW					
	AX					
	AY					
	AZ				<input type="checkbox"/> Additional References sheet(s) attached	
						Date Considered
Examiner						
*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.						

Form PTO 1449 (Modified)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 249532US0DIV	SERIAL NO. 10/786,548		
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT		APPLICANT Hiroto HIGUCHI, et al.					
		FILING DATE February 26, 2004		GROUP 2852			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	6,360,068	03/19/02	KINOSHITA, ET AL.			
	AB	6,395,443	05/28/02	KURODA, ET AL.			
	AC	6,403,275	06/11/02	KURAMOTO, ET AL.			
	AD	6,482,589	08/13/02	UCHINOKURA, ET AL.			
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION		
	AO				YES	NO	
	AP						
	AQ						
	AR						
	AS						
	AT						
	AU						
	AV						
OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
	AW						
	AX						
	AY						
	AZ	<input type="checkbox"/> Additional References sheet(s) attached					
Examiner						Date Considered	
*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

Form PTO 1449 (Modified)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 249532US0DIV	SERIAL NO. 10/786,548	
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT		APPLICANT Hiroto HIGUCHI, et al.				
		FILING DATE February 26, 2004		GROUP 2852		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS
AA		6,335,137	01/01/02	SUZUKI, ET AL.		
AB		6,168,894	01/02/01	AOKI, ET AL.		
AC						
AD						
AE						
AF						
AG						
AH						
AI						
AJ						
AK						
AL						
AM						
AN						
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION	
					YES	NO
AO						
AP						
AQ						
AR						
AS						
AT						
AU						
AV						
OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)						
	AW					
	AX					
	AY					
	AZ	<input type="checkbox"/> Additional References sheet(s) attached <input type="checkbox"/> Date Considered				
Examiner						
*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.						

Form PTO 1449 (Modified)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 249532US0DIV	SERIAL NO. 10/786,548		
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT		APPLICANT Hiroto HIGUCHI, et al.					
		FILING DATE February 26, 2004		GROUP 2852			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	6,337,957	01/08/02	TAMAKI, ET AL.			
	AB	6,442,364	08/27/02	KAI, ET AL.			
	AC	6,468,706	10/22/02	MATSUDA, ET AL.			
	AD	6,507,718	01/14/03	OHJIMI, ET AL.			
	AE	6,505,014	01/07/03	AOKI, ET AL.			
	AF	6,238,835	05/01	TAVERNIER, ET AL.			
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION		
	AO				YES	NO	
	AP						
	AQ						
	AR						
	AS						
	AT						
	AU						
	AV						
OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
	AW						
	AX						
	AY						
	AZ						<input type="checkbox"/> Additional References sheet(s) attached
Examiner		Date Considered					
<small>*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</small>							